

Draft Environmental Assessment



EAST GALLATIN RECREATION AREA Sunrise Rotary Improvement Project

March 2007

City of Bozeman

Bozeman Sunrise Rotary Club



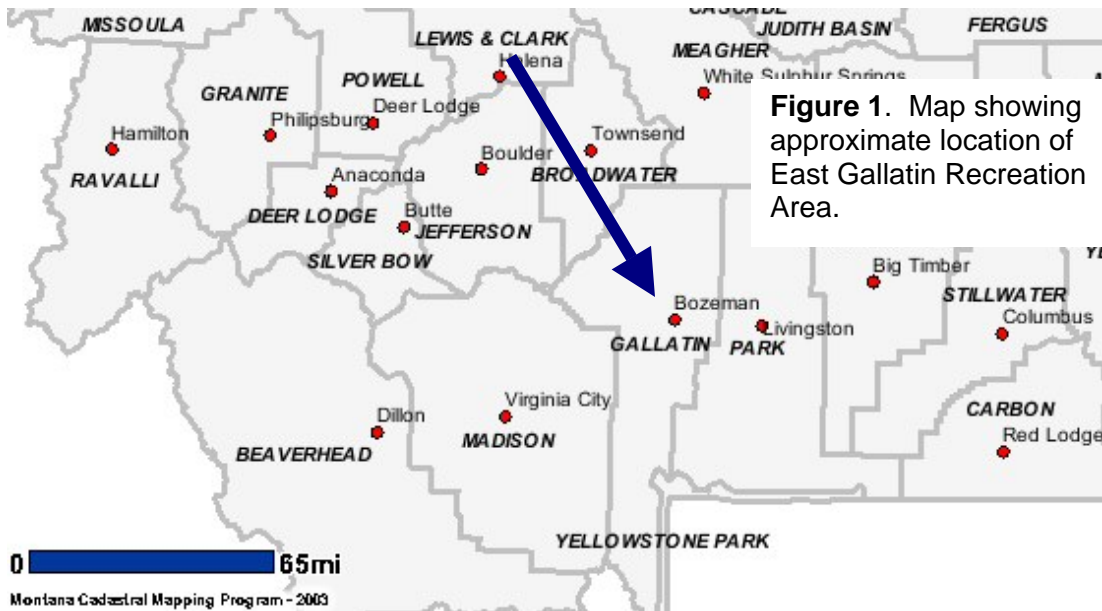
***Montana Fish,
Wildlife & Parks***

East Gallatin Recreation Area Sunrise Rotary Improvement Project Draft Environmental Assessment MEPA, NEPA, MCA 23-1-110 CHECKLIST

PART I. PROPOSED ACTION DESCRIPTION

1. **Type of proposed state action:** The City of Bozeman, in cooperation with Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) proposes to implement site improvements to the East Gallatin Recreation Area, including water and sewer service for a restroom facility, expanding the existing beach area, constructing an additional, larger picnic pavilion, expanding grassy areas and other recreational/aesthetic features, paving the entrance road, and providing additional parking areas.
2. **City Authority for the proposed action:** 7-3-1203. General powers of consolidated government states that "The [municipality] may contract and be contracted with; may acquire property within or without the boundaries of the municipality for any municipal purpose, in fee simple or lesser interest or estate, by purchase, gift, devise, appropriation, lease, or lease with privilege of purchase and may sell, lease, hold, manage, and control such property as the interest of the municipality may require"...

Agency authority for the proposed action: Montana statute 23-1-102 (4) states that "The department has jurisdiction, custody, and control of all state parks, recreational areas, public camping grounds, historical sites, and monuments, except wayside camps and other public conveniences acquired, improved, and maintained by the department of transportation and contiguous to the state highway system. The department may designate lands under its control as state parks, state historical sites, state monuments, or by any other designation that it considers appropriate. The department may remove or change the designation of any area or portion of an area and may name or change the name of any area. The department may lease those portions of designated lands that are necessary for the proper administration of the lands in keeping with the basic purpose of this part".
3. **Name of project:** East Gallatin Recreation Area Sunrise Rotary Improvement Project
4. **Name, address and phone number of project sponsor (if other than the agency):** The City of Bozeman is the project sponsor
5. **Project Timeline:**
Estimated Commencement Date: April 2007 (for first phase)
Estimated Completion Date: Sept. 2007 (for first phase)
Current Status of Project Design (% complete): 50
6. **Location affected by proposed action (county, range and township):**
The East Gallatin Recreation Area is located in Gallatin County, Township 1South, Range 6 East, Section 31.



7. Project size -- estimate the number of acres that would be directly affected that are currently: (Inconsistent font size)

	<u>Acres</u>		<u>Acres</u>
(a) Developed:		(d) Floodplain	<u>0</u>
Residential	<u>0</u>	(e) Productive:	
Industrial	<u>0</u>	Irrigated cropland	<u>0</u>
(b) Open Space/Woodlands/Recreation	<u>4</u>	Dry cropland	<u>0</u>
(c) Wetlands/Riparian Areas	<u>0</u>	Forestry	<u>0</u>
		Rangeland	<u>0</u>
		Other	<u>0</u>

8. Listing of any other Local, State or Federal agency that has overlapping or additional jurisdiction.

- (a) **Permits:** permits will be filed at least 2 weeks prior to project start.

<u>Agency Name</u>	<u>Permit</u>
City of Bozeman	Applicable Building and Sanitation Permits

- (b) **Funding:**

<u>Agency Name</u>	<u>Funding Amount</u>
Bozeman Sunrise Rotary Club	\$1,000,000

- (c) **Other Overlapping or Additional Jurisdictional Responsibilities:**

<u>Agency Name</u>	<u>Type of Responsibility</u>
Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks	Oversight

9. Narrative summary of the proposed action or project including the benefits and purpose of the proposed action:

East Gallatin Recreation Area is located in the northern portion of the City of Bozeman along Manley Road (see Figure 2). Visitors to the park enjoy vistas of the Bridger Mountain Range to the north and east, as well as distant views of the Gallatin, Madison, and Tobacco Root Ranges to the south and west. The park borders industrial areas to the south and west, agricultural and residential lands to the north, and the East Gallatin River to the east. Amenities at the park include three small picnic shelters, one large pavilion, two vault-style toilets, two volleyball courts, horseshoe pits, a handicap-accessible fishing dock, playground, 400 linear feet of sandy beach, gravel parking lot, and various grassy areas. Approximately 3.2 miles of Gallatin Valley Land Trust trails are also accessible from the park, with future expansion planned that would link the park to the valley-wide “Main Street to the Mountains” Trail System. Exact visitation numbers for the park are not available, but during peak usage days in the summer as many as 450 people use the park over the course of a day. Annual numbers are in the ten thousands.

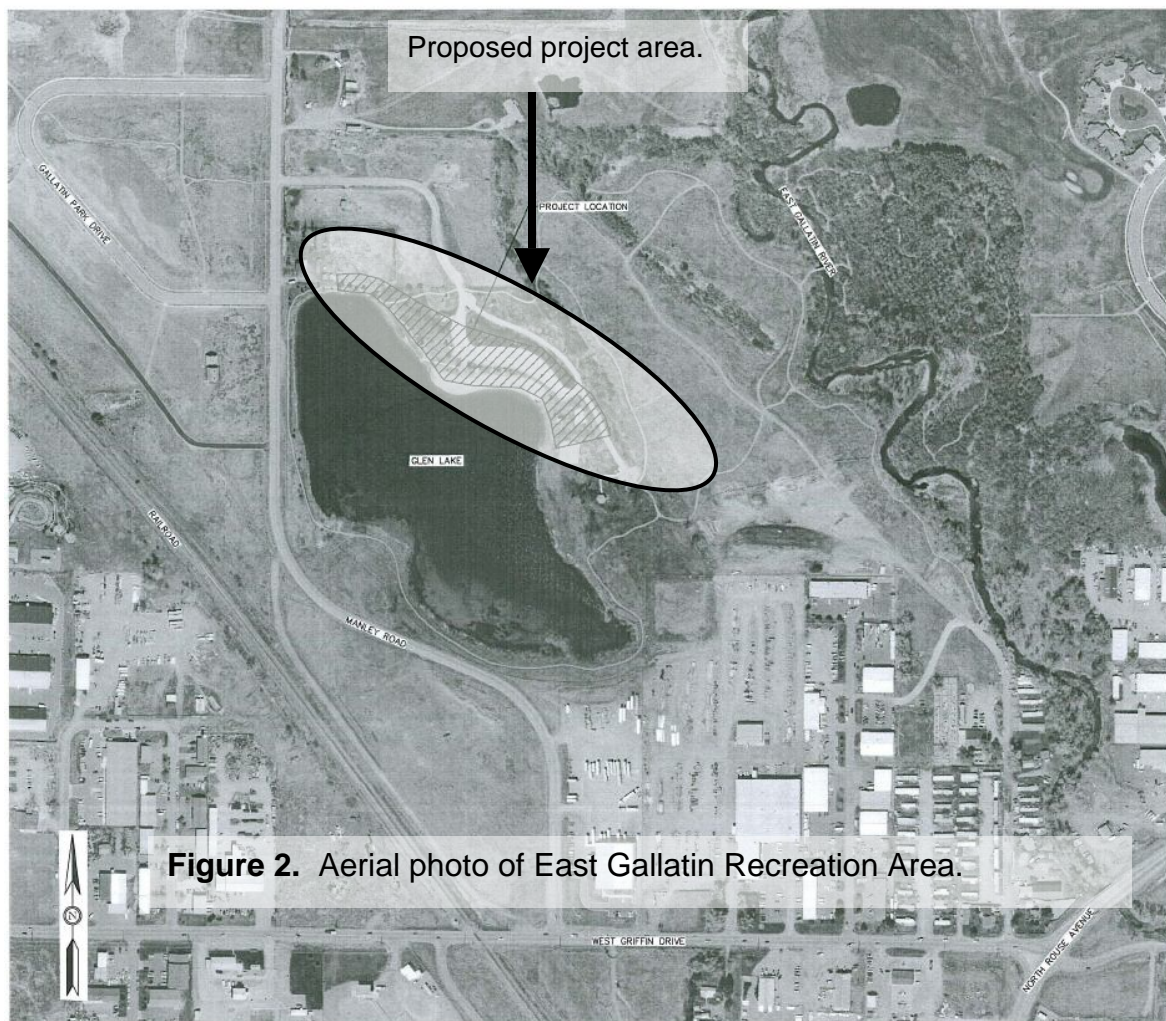


Figure 2. Aerial photo of East Gallatin Recreation Area.

The core land for the park was donated by the late Glen Hash, the founder of Bozeman Sand and Gravel and long-time resident of Gallatin County. The current lake was once a gravel pit,

and the land surrounding the lake includes a reclaimed borrow area and the capped City of Bozeman landfill on the North. The site was initially adopted by a small group of volunteers organized as a 501C3 organization and was later adopted by the Bozeman Sunrise Rotary Club as a club project. The Sunrise Rotary has made numerous improvements to the site including adding several shelters, constructing a retaining wall and grading the beach, trail work including the construction of a boardwalk across a wetland area, and the development of a Master Plan for the park to guide future projects.

Although the East Gallatin Recreation Area serves thousands of visitors each year, park facilities are primitive compared to the rest of the city's parks. There is currently no drinking water or sewer service available, and parking during the busiest times (summer afternoons) can be limited. Users are often forced to park on grassy areas, which reduces recreational space and further denudes the site. Gravel roads mean that dust is always an issue during the hot summer months, and poor site drainage leaves pools of water in the middle of the parking lot. The vault-style toilets are difficult to keep adequately clean and maintained, especially during peak use times, and as a result are often not very sanitary. Swimmers do not like to use the vault toilets to change clothes because of cramped and often unsanitary conditions. The park has only one large pavilion, which is reserved almost continuously throughout the summer, and many potential users are turned away. The beach area can get very crowded during the summer, and in the winter, ice-skaters do not have places to warm up or find shelter from the wind.

In order to bring East Gallatin Park closer to its full potential as a significant focal point of the community, the following priorities, listed in no particular order, have been identified:

- Provide water and sewer service to the park for drinking water and flush toilets.
- Provide a changing room with potential for year-round use (warming hut in winter).
- Expand existing beach area to accommodate more visitors.
- Provide more grass/landscape area between the parking lot and the existing shelters.
- Provide a shallow wading area of the pond with a defined (boulder) boundary.
- Provide a landscaped (shady) and grassy terrace between the rest room and the beach.
- Provide a toboggan hill/berm.
- Provide volleyball courts with berms for ball containment and spectators.
- Provide a large, new pavilion on the east side of the park.
- Update the park with more landscaping.
- Develop paved roads and parking.
- Encourage use of the extensive Gallatin Valley Trail system by providing a link to the "Main Street to the Mountains" Trail Network.
- Ensure that the park maintains its identity as a community-supported, family oriented recreational area

The East Gallatin Park is maintained by the City of Bozeman, on 36 acres that is leased from Montana Dept. of Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) and 47 acres that FWP leases from the City. Development of planned park features is by cooperative effort between the City of Bozeman and the Bozeman Sunrise Rotary Club. Early cost estimates to implement the proposed improvements are approximately \$1,000,000. Proposed projects would be added in several phases, likely taking about three years to complete. The project that has the highest priority is the proposal to add water and sewer service in conjunction with a new restroom, and managers hope to complete that project in the summer of 2007.

The proposed restroom would have one stall and two urinals for men, three stalls for women, and one communal outdoor shower, all housed in a permanent building that would be located

a few yards west of the main parking area near the current playground (see Figures 3 and 8) The playground would be moved to a new location. Water and sewer will be run approximately 920 feet from a sewer main stub in the Sunfish minor subdivision and run underground through the park (see Figures 4, 5, and 7) in the same trench. At one point the pipes will run over a narrow channel that links Glen Lake with a small wetland area (see Figure 6). Work in this section will be done by hand to minimize disturbance. All water and sewer work will be completed by Allied Engineering of Bozeman.

The proposed sewer and water improvements have been designed according to City of Bozeman requirements. The City of Bozeman has agreed to accept wastewater from and provide potable water to the site. The City Parks Departments will maintain facilities.



Figure 3 (facing northeast). Approximate location of new restroom facilities. The playground will be relocated and upgraded.



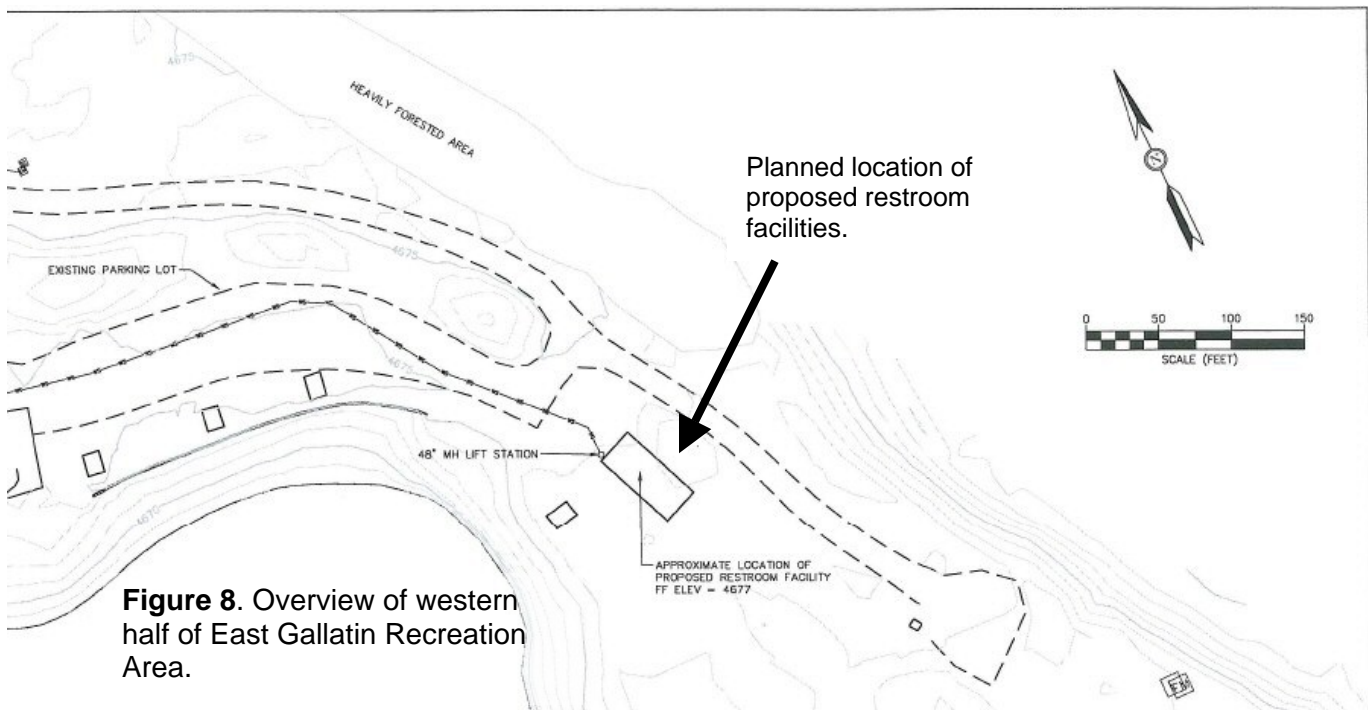
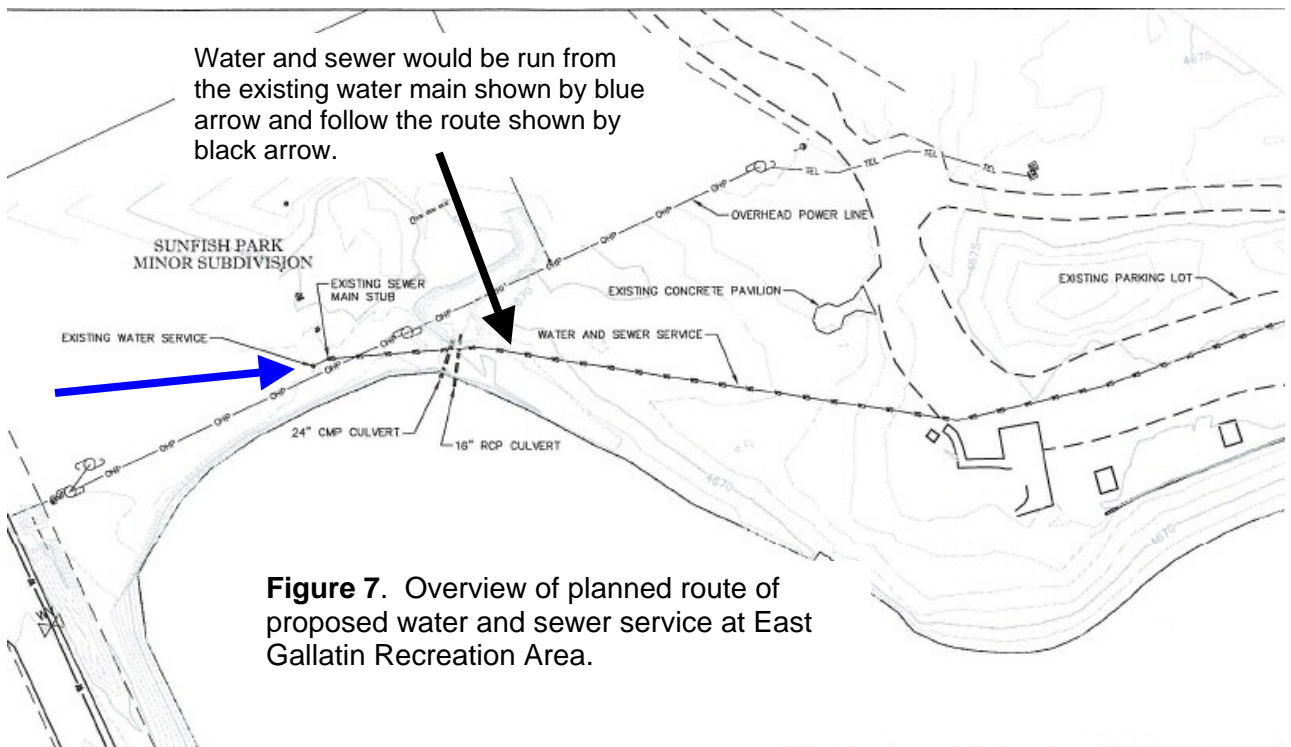
Figure 4 (facing west). The white arrow shows the location of the water main, the black arrow shows the route of the underground pipes.



Figure 5 (facing east). The arrow shows the approximate route that the underground water and sewer lines will follow.



Figure 6 (facing east). No heavy machinery would be used in this section to protect small wetland area (shown by arrow).



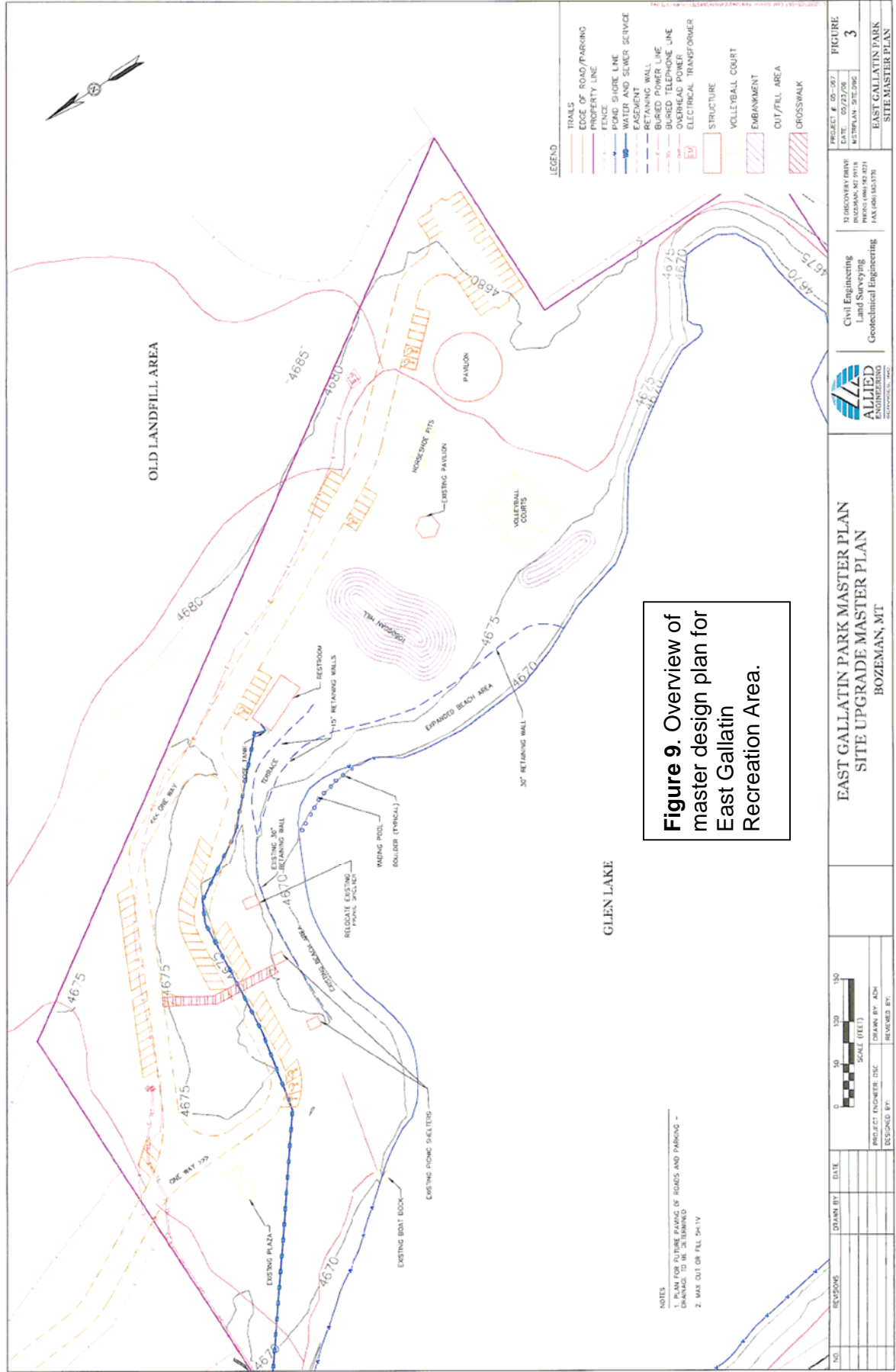


Figure 9. Overview of master design plan for East Gallatin Recreation Area.

PROJECT # 05-003 DATE 05/23/08 WORTHMAN SITE ONE		FIGURE 3	
TO: BOZEMAN AREA BOZEMAN, MT 59718 PHONE (406) 982-8231 FAX (406) 982-8231		EAST GALLATIN PARK SITE MASTER PLAN	
Civil Engineering Land Surveying Geotechnical Engineering		ALLIED ENGINEERING BOZEMAN, MT	
EAST GALLATIN PARK MASTER PLAN SITE UPGRADE MASTER PLAN			
REVISIONS		SCALE (H/L) PROJECT: ENGINEER: DSC DRAWN BY: ADH REVIEWED BY:	



Paving

Another major aspect in the proposed upgrade is the paving of the parking lot and all roadways. All of the parking and roaded areas would be paved with hot asphalt concrete. Prior to paving, improvements are necessary to the areas to remedy inadequate drainage. Often large pools of water form in the middle of the existing parking lot, which is a nuisance to visitors, creates maintenance issues, and accelerate breakdown of the paving material. Minor reshaping and regarding of the access road is necessary as well. A total of seven disabled-accessible parking spots would be included in the upgrade (see Figure 9) as well as various sidewalks and crosswalks linking the parking areas to each other and to the park's facilities. Finally, the parking area may be painted to identify parking spaces, which will help facilitate traffic flow and minimize congestion.

These improvements are intended to 1) reduce maintenance measures associated with gravel surfaces; 2) accommodate more vehicles/visitors to the Recreation Area; 3) improve maneuverability for vehicles within the parking area; 4) eliminate pools of water that often form in the parking area due to improper drainage; 5) reduce dust particulates to nearby residents; and 6) improve public safety.

Parking Area Expansion

In addition to paving the driving surfaces, The City of Bozeman's Parks and Recreation managers propose expansion of the parking area to accommodate additional vehicles. During the past several summers this parking area has been filled to capacity on a regular basis, and visitation numbers are expected to increase further in the future. Additional parking spaces are needed to accommodate these visitors. Approximately 20 additional spaces would be added in several locations in this phase, with the possibility of adding more as need arose in the future. The location of the proposed parking expansion areas are shown in Figures 9 and 10, with yellow lines representing parking spaces planned for construction in this phase, and white lines (shown in Figure 10) representing additional spaces that could be added in the future with little additional labor and disturbance. All proposed parking areas have been disturbed in the past and are primarily vegetated with non-native grass. Any trees that would need to be removed for the expansion would be relocated elsewhere within the Recreation Area. A crosswalk would run through the treed area seen in Figure 11, linking the two parking areas. The parking area expansion work would involve excavation, roadway base and surfacing placement of hot asphalt concrete pavement. Incidental items such as signing and basic landscaping may be included.

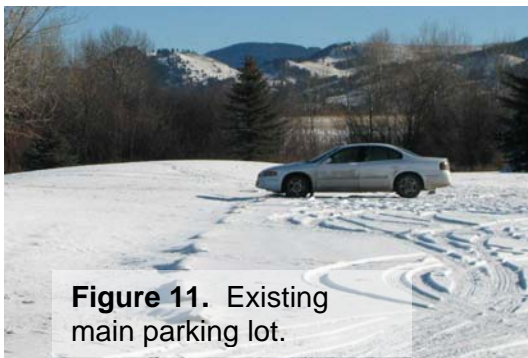


Figure 11. Existing main parking lot.



Figure 12. Existing retaining wall and beach area.

Beach Expansion

The sandy beach at East Gallatin Recreation Area (EGRA) is extremely popular with area residents, and is usually very busy throughout the summer. In order to alleviate some of the crowding, the planning team has suggested extending the retaining wall approximately 150ft, thereby expanding the beach area by about 60%. Additional sand would be imported for the new beach area. In addition, a shallow wading area would be constructed at the same time as the beach expansion (see Figures 9, 10, and 12).

Picnic Pavilion

Another feature in the proposed project is the construction of an additional picnic pavilion in the EGRA. The current picnic pavilion is reserved almost continuously throughout the summer, especially on weekends. Many potential users are therefore not able to secure its use, and are disappointed. Therefore, the Sunrise Rotary Club has offered to include the construction of another pavilion as part of the proposed upgrades to the EGRA. A suitable site has been located in the eastern part of the park (see Figures 9, 10, and 13). The site is level, close to parking, and yet somewhat private. The horseshoe pits and new volleyball courts would be located between the existing pavilion and the new one, which should afford easy access to these facilities. Also, one of the new parking areas is planned to be constructed adjacent to the new pavilion, with three disabled-accessible spaces.



Figure 13. Planned site for the proposed second picnic pavilion.

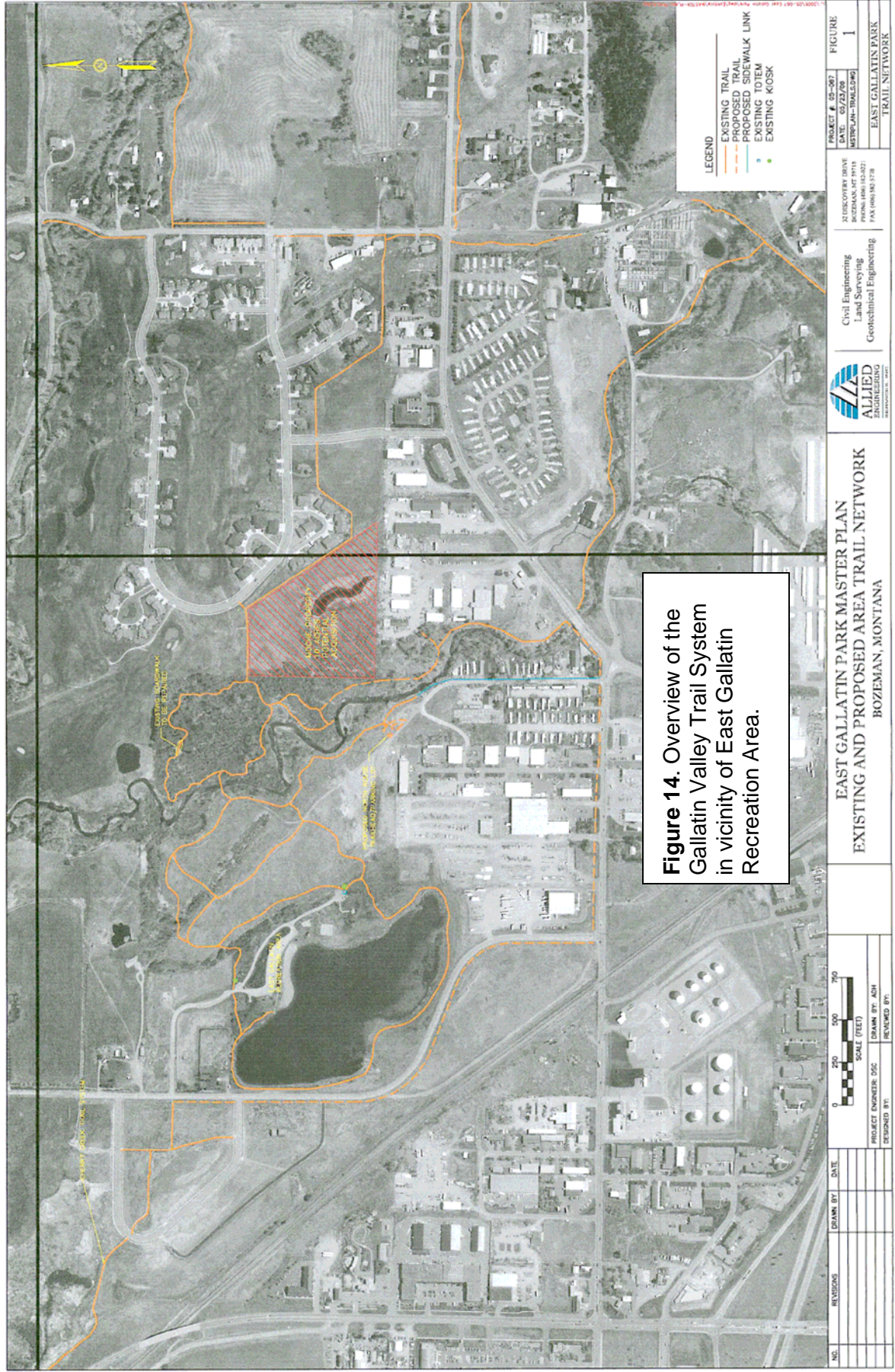
Trail Expansion

Finally, the City of Bozeman and the Sunrise Rotary Club of Bozeman wish to encourage use of the extensive Gallatin Valley Trail System by providing a link to the “Main Street to the Mountains” Trail Network. Figure 14 shows existing (solid lines) and proposed (dashed lines) trail segments within the larger EGRA area. This expansion of the trail system, along with the other proposed improvements for EGRA, would provide additional recreational opportunities for Bozeman-area residents while maintaining the park’s identity as a community-supported, family oriented recreational area.

Project Timing

The timing and sequence for all the improvements has not been decided and would proceed as funds became available. The projects that have the highest priority are the addition of water and sewer service in conjunction with a new restroom, which would be completed in the summer of 2007. All aspects of the proposed project are slated to be completed by the end of 2010. Review of final designs of each major element described in this EA would be coordinated between the Bozeman Sunrise Rotary Club and the City of Bozeman Parks Manager.

The Bozeman Sunrise Rotary Club has successfully completed several major projects using club funds, matching grants, and volunteer labor and in-kind donations. The Sunrise Rotary Club initiated a major annual fund-raising project (Golf in the Dark for East Gallatin Park) in 2005 and expects to continue the program in the future. These sources are expected to provide the necessary funding for the proposed improvements.



PART II. ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

- 1. Description and analysis of reasonable alternatives (including the no action alternative) to the proposed action whenever alternatives are reasonably available and prudent to consider and a discussion of how the alternatives would be implemented:**

Alternative A: No Action

If no action is taken, facilities at East Gallatin Recreation Area will remain the same. Park managers are concerned that if no action is taken to upgrade facilities at the park, issues of concern such as overcrowding on the beach, insufficient parking, and unsanitary restroom facilities will only worsen. East Gallatin Recreation Area is a popular destination for thousands of Bozeman area residents and the current facilities at the park do not adequately serve them.

Alternative B: Proposed Action

Note: a detailed evaluation of the Proposed Action is included in Part I, #9.

In the preferred Alternative, City managers would proceed with plans to upgrade numerous facilities at the Recreation Area, including the construction of restrooms with flush toilets; drinking water; expanded and paved parking areas; a second, larger picnic pavilion; numerous beach improvements, including a shallow wading area, expanded sandy and grassy areas, and an extension of the retaining wall; a changing room/warming hut; and providing a link to the "Main Street to the Mountains" Trail Network. If Alternative B is not adopted, the City of Bozeman could lose an opportunity to cooperate with the Bozeman Sunrise Rotary Club on a project that would benefit the entire City. The proposed upgrades would significantly improve public safety, health, and enjoyment of this important community resource.

Alternative C: Lower Level of Development

In Alternative C, many of the proposed upgrades listed in Alternative B would still occur, but at a lower level of development. For example, the proposed restrooms would still be constructed but would utilize composting toilets instead of standard flush toilets, which would improve sanitation. However, water and sewer lines would not be run, and no drinking water would be available in the Recreation Area. Alternative C is not the desired Alternative because City managers believe that the benefits of the proposed action outweigh the few impacts that would be caused by the light development involved by the proposed action. The level of use that this site receives almost demands certain amenities, with flush toilets and drinking water being among those.

- 2. Evaluation and listing of mitigation, stipulation, or other control measures enforceable by the agency or another government agency:**

There are no formal stipulations of mitigation or other controls associated with the proposed action. This action does not involve any granting of a license on which stipulations would be placed.

PART III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- 1. Describe the level of public involvement for this project if any, and, given the complexity and the seriousness of the environmental issues associated with the proposed action, is the level of public involvement appropriate under the circumstances?**

The public will be notified by way one statewide press release, and legal notices in the *Helena Independent Record*, the *Montana Standard*, the *Bozeman Chronicle*, and by public notice on the Fish, Wildlife & Parks web page:

<http://fwp.mt.gov/publicnotices>. Individual notices will be sent to the region's standard EA distribution list and to those that have requested one.

Duration of comment period:

A 30-day comment period is proposed. This level of public involvement is appropriate for this scale of project.

Comments should be sent to:

Ron Dingman
City of Bozeman Parks and Recreation Superintendent
814 N. Bozeman
Bozeman, MT 59715

PART IV. EA PREPARATION

- 1. Based on the significance criteria evaluated in this EA, is an EIS required? If an EIS is not required, explain why the EA is the appropriate level of analysis for this proposed action.**

Based on an evaluation of the primary, secondary, and cumulative impacts to the physical and human environment under the Montana Environmental Protection Act (MEPA), this environmental review found no significant impacts from the proposed facilities upgrade at East Gallatin Recreation Area. In determining the significance of the impacts, FWP assessed the severity, duration, geographic extent, and frequency of the impact, the probability that the impact would occur or reasonable assurance that the impact would not occur, growth-inducing or growth inhibiting aspects of the impact, the importance to the state and to society of the environmental resource or value affected, and precedent that would be set as a result of the proposed action that would commit FWP to future actions; and potential conflicts with local, federal, or state laws. Therefore, an EA is the appropriate level of review and an EIS is not required.

2. Name, title, address and phone number of the person(s) responsible for preparing the EA:

Ron Dingman
City of Bozeman Parks and Rec. Superintendent
814 N. Bozeman
Bozeman, MT 59715
(406)582-3222
rdingman@bozeman.net

Linnaea Schroeer-Smith
Independent Contractor
1027 9th Ave
Helena, MT 59601
(406)495-9620
mtflower3@bresnan.net

3. List of agencies consulted during preparation of the EA:

City of Bozeman
 Parks and Recreation
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks
 Parks Division
 Wildlife Division
 Fisheries Division
 Design and Construction Unit
 Lands Division
 Legal Unit
Montana State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)
Montana Department of Commerce – Tourism
Montana Natural Heritage Program – Natural Resources Information System (NRIS)

PART V. ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW CHECKLIST

1. Evaluation of the impacts of the Proposed Action including secondary and cumulative impacts on the Physical and Human Environment.

A. PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

1. <u>LAND RESOURCES</u> Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT *				Can Impact Be Mitigated *	Comment Index
	Unknown *	None	Minor *	Potentially Significant		
a. **Soil instability or changes in geologic substructure?		X				1a.
b. Disruption, displacement, erosion, compaction, moisture loss, or over-covering of soil, which would reduce productivity or fertility?			X		X	1b.
c. **Destruction, covering or modification of any unique geologic or physical features?		X				
d. Changes in siltation, deposition or erosion patterns that may modify the channel of a river or stream or the bed or shore of a lake?			X			1d.
e. Exposure of people or property to earthquakes, landslides, ground failure, or other natural hazard?		X				
f. Other:		X				

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Land Resources (attach additional pages of narrative if needed):

- 1a. The proposed project would not cause any soil instability or changes in geologic substructure.
- 1b. The proposed construction of the restrooms, additional parking and roadway areas, picnic pavilion, running of water and sewer lines, and other minor aspects of the proposed project would cause soil disruption, displacement and compaction of soil. While the vast majority of the Recreation Area's roadways and parking areas would be upgraded in their existing locations, approximately 200ft of roadway and 2,500sf of parking lot would be built over adjacent areas that are now covered with non-native grass. Disturbed areas not covered by parking or road would be reseeded, landscaped, or otherwise reclaimed. Nearly all of the site has already been disturbed and is currently in some level of development. Best Management Practices (BMP's) will be followed in all aspects of the project to minimize impacts.
- 1d. The proposed action includes beach improvements that would likely cause temporary erosion and siltation to the lake shore during implementation. The shoreline would be permanently modified to a minor degree.

* Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or cannot be evaluated.

** Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM).

*** Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

**** Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.

2. <u>AIR</u> Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT *				Can Impact Be Mitigated *	Comment Index
	Unknown *	None	Minor *	Potentially Significant		
a. **Emission of air pollutants or deterioration of ambient air quality? (Also see 13 (c).)			X		yes	2a.
b. Creation of objectionable odors?		X				2b.
c. Alteration of air movement, moisture, or temperature patterns or any change in climate, either locally or regionally?		X				
d. Adverse effects on vegetation, including crops, due to increased emissions of pollutants?		X				
e. ***For P-R/D-J projects, will the project result in any discharge, which will conflict with federal or state air quality regs? (Also see 2a.)						
f. Other:		X				

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Air Resources (attach additional pages of narrative if needed):

- 2a. Minor and temporary dust and vehicle emissions will be created by heavy equipment during construction. Overall dust levels are expected to decrease from current levels after completion because the parking areas and interior road would be paved.
- 2b. The proposed construction of a restroom with flush toilets would result in a reduction of objectionable odors that often are noticeable around the current vault toilet.

* Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or cannot be evaluated.

** Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM).

*** Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

**** Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.

3. WATER Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT *				Can Impact Be Mitigated*	Comment Index
	Unknown *	None	Minor *	Potentially Significant		
a. *Discharge into surface water or any alteration of surface water quality including but not limited to temperature, dissolved oxygen or turbidity?			X			3a.
b. Changes in drainage patterns or the rate and amount of surface runoff?			X			3b.
c. Alteration of the course or magnitude of floodwater or other flows?		X				
d. Changes in the amount of surface water in any water body or creation of a new water body?		X				
e. Exposure of people or property to water related hazards such as flooding?		X				
f. Changes in the quality of groundwater?		X				
g. Changes in the quantity of groundwater?		X				
h. Increase in risk of contamination of surface or groundwater?		X				
i. Effects on any existing water right or reservation?		X				
j. Effects on other water users as a result of any alteration in surface or groundwater quality?		X				
k. Effects on other users as a result of any alteration in surface or groundwater quantity?		X				
l. ****For P-R/D-J, will the project affect a designated floodplain? (Also see 3c.)						
m. ***For P-R/D-J, will the project result in any discharge that will affect federal or state water quality regulations? (Also see 3a.)						
n. Other:		X				

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Water Resources (attach additional pages of narrative if needed):

- 3a. Minor and temporary turbidity would occur in the areas of Glen Lake adjacent to the proposed beach/swimming area improvements during expansion of the beach and creation of the wading area.
- 3b. Currently, parking and roadway areas within the Recreation Area do not have adequate slope to ensure proper drainage and puddles often form on them. The proposed action includes plans to refigure and pave much of these areas, which likely would result in an increase in surface runoff, but paved areas would be properly engineered and the impact is expected to be minor. A design plan would be submitted to the city for approval prior to the implementation of that phase. Run-off issues would be thoroughly reviewed at that time.

* Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or cannot be evaluated.

** Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM).

*** Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

**** Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.

4. VEGETATION Will the proposed action result in?	IMPACT *				Can Impact Be Mitigated *	Comment Index
	Unknown *	None	Minor *	Potentially Significant		
a. Changes in the diversity, productivity or abundance of plant species (including trees, shrubs, grass, crops, and aquatic plants)?			X			4a.
b. Alteration of a plant community?			X			4b.
c. Adverse effects on any unique, rare, threatened, or endangered species?		X				4c.
d. Reduction in acreage or productivity of any agricultural land?		X				
e. Establishment or spread of noxious weeds?		X				4e.
f. ****For P-R/D-J, will the project affect wetlands, or prime and unique farmland?						
g. Other:		X				

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Vegetation (attach additional pages of narrative if needed):4a.

- 4a. The proposed project would have a very minor effect on the diversity, productivity or abundance of plant species in the East Gallatin Recreation Area. A small amount of vegetation, mainly grass, would be removed during implementation of the various projects. All areas would be reseeded, landscaped, or otherwise restored after disturbance.
- 4b. Please see comment 4a.
- 4c. There are no documented occurrences of any threatened or endangered plant species within East Gallatin Recreation area. However, two sensitive plant species, dwarf purple monkeyflower (*Mimulus nanus*) and slender wedgrass (*Sphenopholis intermedia*) are found in the greater Bozeman area. It is unknown whether these two plant species are found in East Gallatin Recreation Area specifically, but it is unlikely that they exist in the proposed project area, as the site is already disturbed and heavily traveled. A small population of another sensitive plant species, the small yellow lady's slipper (*Cypripedium parviflorum*), can be found in a distinct location about 0.5 miles from the Recreation Area, and would probably not be affected by the proposed project, although increased visitation might bring more people into the vicinity of this population. Please see Appendix 2 for further information about plant species of concern in the proposed project area.
- 4e. The proposed project is unlikely to have any effect on the establishment or spread of noxious weeds in East Gallatin Recreation Area. Currently, the Recreation Area has an approximately 10% rate of infestation of noxious weeds, mostly spotted knapweed, tansy, and Canadian thistle. This level of infestation is considered contained and under control, and the proposed project is unlikely to alter that level for the worse or better. Disturbed areas would be immediately reseeded, landscaped, or otherwise reclaimed before noxious weeds colonized them. City of Bozeman park managers would then continue their customary control of noxious weeds in the East Gallatin Recreation Area.

* Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or cannot be evaluated.

** Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM).

*** Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

**** Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.

** 5. FISH/WILDLIFE Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT *				Can Impact Be Mitigated *	Comment Index
	Unknown *	None	Minor *	Potentially Significant		
a. Deterioration of critical fish or wildlife habitat?		X				5a.
b. Changes in the diversity or abundance of game animals or bird species?		X				
c. Changes in the diversity or abundance of nongame species?		X				
d. Introduction of new species into an area?		X				
e. Creation of a barrier to the migration or movement of animals?		X				
f. Adverse effects on any unique, rare, threatened, or endangered species?		X				5f.
g. Increase in conditions that stress wildlife populations or limit abundance (including harassment, legal or illegal harvest or other human activity)?			X			5g.
h. ****For P-R/D-J, will the project be performed in any area in which T&E species are present, and will the project affect any T&E species or their habitat? (Also see 5f.)						
i. ***For P-R/D-J, will the project introduce or export any species not presently or historically occurring in the receiving location? (Also see 5d.)						
j. Other:		X				

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Fish and Wildlife (attach additional pages of narrative if needed):

- 5a. It is unlikely that the proposed project would cause any changes in the diversity or abundance of game or non-game species due to the project's small scope and the previous disturbance of and current level of public use of the East Gallatin Recreation Area.
- 5f. A search of the Montana Natural Heritage Program Database did not yield any documented observations of endangered, threatened, or sensitive species in the East Gallatin Recreation Area. Please see Appendix 2 for a more complete discussion of species of concern within the project site and greater Bozeman area.
- 5g. The proposed improvements would likely cause a small increase in site visitation, which could cause additional stress to wildlife populations. However, visitation is already high, and East Gallatin Recreation Area is in a moderately developed suburban setting and area wildlife is already fairly accustomed to the presence of humans.

* Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or cannot be evaluated.

** Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM).

*** Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

**** Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.

B. HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

6. <u>NOISE/ELECTRICAL EFFECTS</u> Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT *				Can Impact Be Mitigated *	Comment Index
	Unknown *	None	Minor *	Potentially Significant		
a. Increases in existing noise levels?			X			6a.
b. Exposure of people to severe or nuisance noise levels?			X		yes	6b.
c. Creation of electrostatic or electromagnetic effects that could be detrimental to human health or property?		X				
d. Interference with radio or television reception and operation?		X				
e. Other:		X				

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Noise/Electrical Effects (attach additional pages of narrative if needed):

- 6a. There would be a temporary increase in noise level during construction/implementation of the various aspects of proposed project, but it would not be excessive and would end after completion. Homeowners in the Sunfish Park Subdivision live close enough to the Recreation Area that they are likely to hear the construction noise, but construction will not continue in evening or weekend hours and would be temporary. Residents in the adjacent subdivision appear to support the project, as the proposed upgrades would benefit them as well when they use the Recreation Area.
- 6b. The proposed upgraded amenities might result in increased site visitation, which could lead to a slight increase in noise. However, paving the Recreation Area's roadways and parking lots would reduce vehicular noise and help mitigate any overall increase in noise from the site.

* Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or cannot be evaluated.

** Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM).

*** Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

**** Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.

7. LAND USE Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT *				Can Impact Be Mitigated *	Comment Index
	Unknown *	None	Minor *	Potentially Significant		
a. Alteration of or interference with the productivity or profitability of the existing land use of an area?		X				7a.
b. Conflict with a designated natural area or area of unusual scientific or educational importance?		X				
c. Conflict with any existing land use whose presence would constrain or potentially prohibit the proposed action?		X				
d. Adverse effects on or relocation of residences?		X				
e. Other:		X				

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Land Use (attach additional pages of narrative if needed):

- 7a. The proposed project would not alter or interfere with the productivity or profitability of existing land use in the area.

* Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or cannot be evaluated.

** Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM).

*** Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

**** Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.

8. RISK/HEALTH HAZARDS Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT *				Can Impact Be Mitigated *	Comment Index
	Unknown *	None	Minor *	Potentially Significant		
a. Risk of an explosion or release of hazardous substances (including, but not limited to oil, pesticides, chemicals, or radiation) in the event of an accident or other forms of disruption?			X			8a.
b. Affect an existing emergency response or emergency evacuation plan, or create a need for a new plan?		X				
c. Creation of any human health hazard or potential hazard?		X				8c.
d. *** <u>For P-R/D-J</u> , will any chemical toxicants be used? (Also see 8a)		X				8a.
e. Other:		X				8e.

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Risk/Health Hazards (attach additional pages of narrative if needed):

- 8a. There is a slight risk of petroleum spill from the heavy machinery that would be used during implementation of several phases of the proposed project.

* Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or cannot be evaluated.

** Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM).

*** Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

**** Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.

9. COMMUNITY IMPACT Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT *				Can Impact Be Mitigated *	Comment Index
	Unknown *	None	Minor *	Potentially Significant		
a. Alteration of the location, distribution, density, or growth rate of the human population of an area?		X				
b. Alteration of the social structure of a community?		X				
c. Alteration of the level or distribution of employment or community or personal income?		X				
d. Changes in industrial or commercial activity?		X				
e. Increased traffic hazards or effects on existing transportation facilities or patterns of movement of people and goods?			X			9e.
f. Other:						

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Community Impact (attach additional pages of narrative if needed):

- 9e. Visitation to East Gallatin Recreation Area would likely increase under the proposed plan, resulting in more vehicles entering and exiting the entrance to the Recreation Area. However, this slight increase in traffic should not result in any significant increase in traffic hazards because the approach to the Recreation Area is well sighted and traffic on Manley Road is fairly light.

* Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or cannot be evaluated.

** Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM).

*** Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

**** Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.

10. <u>PUBLIC SERVICES/TAXES/UTILITIES</u> Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT *				Can Impact Be Mitigated *	Comment Index
	Unknown *	None	Minor *	Potentially Significant		
a. Will the proposed action have an effect upon or result in a need for new or altered governmental services in any of the following areas: fire or police protection, schools, parks/recreational facilities, roads or other public maintenance, water supply, sewer or septic systems, solid waste disposal, health, or other governmental services? If any, specify:			10a.			10a.
b. Will the proposed action have an effect upon the local or state tax base and revenues?		X				
c. Will the proposed action result in a need for new facilities or substantial alterations of any of the following utilities: electric power, natural gas, other fuel supply or distribution systems, or communications?		X				
d. Will the proposed action result in increased use of any energy source?		X				
e. **Define projected revenue sources						10e.
f. **Define projected maintenance costs.						10f.
g. Other:		X				

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Public Services/Taxes/Utilities (attach additional pages of narrative if needed):

- 10a. The proposed action would have a minor effect on the City of Bozeman's water supply and sewer systems. The East Gallatin Recreation Area was annexed into the Bozeman City limits on March 5th, 2007. This enables the City to apply and enforce city regulations.
- 10e. The cost of the project is estimated at \$1,000,000 for all phases of the project, which would be funded by the Sunrise Rotary Club of Bozeman.
- 10f. The proposed upgrades to the Recreation Area would require some additional maintenance, especially upkeep of the restrooms, costing approximately \$20/day.

* Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or cannot be evaluated.

** Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM).

*** Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

**** Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.

** 11. <u>AESTHETICS/RECREATION</u> Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT *				Can Impact Be Mitigated *	Comment Index
	Unknown *	None	Minor *	Potentially Significant		
a. Alteration of any scenic vista or creation of an aesthetically offensive site or effect that is open to public view?			X positive			11a.
b. Alteration of the aesthetic character of a community or neighborhood?		X				
c. **Alteration of the quality or quantity of recreational/tourism opportunities and settings? (Attach Tourism Report.)			X			11c.
d. ***For P-R/D-J, will any designated or proposed wild or scenic rivers, trails or wilderness areas be impacted? (Also see 11a, 11c.)						
e. Other:						

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Aesthetics/Recreation (attach additional pages of narrative if needed):

11a. The aesthetic character of the Recreation Area would be improved if the proposed project went forward. The proposed new pavilion and restrooms exteriors have been designed so that they would be in synch with existing structures and in harmony with the Park's environment.

11c. See Tourism Report in Attachment A.

* Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or cannot be evaluated.

** Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM).

*** Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

**** Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.

12. CULTURAL/HISTORICAL RESOURCES Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT *				Can Impact Be Mitigated *	Comment Index
	Unknown *	None	Minor *	Potentially Significant		
a. **Destruction or alteration of any site, structure or object of prehistoric historic, or paleontological importance?		X				12a.
b. Physical change that would affect unique cultural values?		X				
c. Effects on existing religious or sacred uses of a site or area?		X				
d. ****For P-R/D-J, will the project affect historic or cultural resources? Attach SHPO letter of clearance. (Also see 12.a.)						
e. Other:		X				

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Cultural/Historical Resources (attach additional pages of narrative if needed):

- 12a. The proposed project would not result in the destruction or alteration of any known site, structure, or object of prehistoric, historic, or paleontological importance. Cultural records from the area indicate that there is a low likelihood of adverse impact to cultural properties. Please see Attachment B for a clearance letter from the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).

* Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or cannot be evaluated.

** Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM).

*** Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

**** Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.

SIGNIFICANCE CRITERIA

13. <u>SUMMARY EVALUATION OF SIGNIFICANCE</u> Will the proposed action, considered as a whole:	IMPACT *				Can Impact Be Mitigated *	Comment Index
	Unknown *	None	Minor *	Potentially Significant		
a. Have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (A project or program may result in impacts on two or more separate resources that create a significant effect when considered together or in total.)		X				13a.
b. Involve potential risks or adverse effects, which are uncertain but extremely hazardous if they were to occur?		X				
c. Potentially conflict with the substantive requirements of any local, state, or federal law, regulation, standard or formal plan?		X				
d. Establish a precedent or likelihood that future actions with significant environmental impacts will be proposed?		X				
e. Generate substantial debate or controversy about the nature of the impacts that would be created?		X				
f. ***For P-R/D-J, is the project expected to have organized opposition or generate substantial public controversy? (Also see 13e.)						
g. ****For P-R/D-J, list any federal or state permits required.						

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Significance Criteria (attach additional pages of narrative if needed):

13a. This EA found no significant impacts to the human or physical environment from the proposed action.

PART VI. NARRATIVE EVALUATION AND COMMENT

East Gallatin Recreation Area receives thousands of visitors a year, providing Bozeman-area residents a place to swim, sunbath, play volleyball, and picnic in the summer; ice-fish or ice-skate in the winter, and jog or hike the trail system any time of year. Current amenities at the Recreation Area are not adequate for the level of use that it receives. There is insufficient parking, the vault latrines can be unsanitary during peak visitation periods, the picnic pavilion is overbooked, and the beach area is crowded. The proposed project would upgrade the Recreation Area's facilities to a state appropriate to its level of use. The proposed project offers an excellent opportunity for the City of Bozeman, Montana FWP, and the Sunrise Rotary Club of Bozeman to cooperate together in improving the recreational opportunities in the Bozeman area. This EA did not reveal any significant negative impacts to the physical and human environment stemming from the proposed action. No threatened or endangered species would be affected, and no unique or physical features would be disturbed.

* Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or cannot be evaluated.

** Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM).

*** Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

**** Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.

APPENDIX 1
HB495
PROJECT QUALIFICATION CHECKLIST

Date February 1, 2007

Person Reviewing Linnaea Schroeer-Smith

Project Location: East Gallatin Recreation Area, Gallatin County

Description of Proposed Work: The City of Bozeman, in cooperation with Sunrise Rotary Club of Bozeman and Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks proposes implementing upgrades to the Recreation Area's facilities, including construction a new restroom, running water and sewer service to that restroom, building a new picnic pavilion, expanding the beach area, expanding the parking area, and paving all roadways and parking areas within the Recreation Area.

The following checklist is intended to be a guide for determining whether a proposed development or improvement is of enough significance to fall under HB 495 rules. (Please check _ all that apply and comment as necessary.)

- ☐ **A. New roadway or trail built over undisturbed land?**
Comments: The proposed project does include an expansion of the existing parking area and connecting road, but only previously disturbed land would be affected. Please see Comment 1b. on page 16.
- ☒ **B. New building construction (buildings <100 sf and vault latrines exempt)?**
Comments: A new 1,200sf restroom would be constructed with a total of four toilet stalls, two urinals, and an outdoor shower. Also, a new 5000sf picnic pavilion would be constructed.
- ☒ **C. Any excavation of 20 c.y. or greater?**
Comments: Implementation of the proposed projects would result in more than 20cy of earth excavation. Please see Comments 1a, 1b, and 1d. on page 16.
- ☐ **D. New parking lots built over undisturbed land or expansion of existing lot that increases parking capacity by 25% or more?**
Comments: The parking area would be increased by about 20 spaces, which would be an increase of less than 25%.
- ☒ **E. Any new shoreline alteration that exceeds a double wide boat ramp or handicapped fishing station?**
Comments: The shoreline of Glen Lake might be slightly altered during the course of the beach expansion and installation of boulders for the wading area, but the effect would not be significant. Please see Comment 1d. on page 16.

- ☐ F. **Any new construction into lakes, reservoirs, or streams?**
Comments: A new wading area would be created in the swimming section of the lake, but would not involve any construction per se, just the appropriate placement of boulders to delineate the wading area.
- ☐ G. **Any new construction in an area with National Registry quality cultural artifacts (as determined by State Historical Preservation Office)?**
Comments: None
- ☐ H. **Any new above ground utility lines?**
Comments: None
- ☐ I. **Any increase or decrease in campsites of 25% or more of an existing number of campsites?**
Comments: None.
- ☒ J. **Proposed project significantly changes the existing features or use pattern; including effects of a series of individual projects?**
Comments: The proposed upgrades at East Gallatin Recreation Area would likely cause an increase in visitation to the Recreation Area.

APPENDIX 2

Sensitive Plants and Animals in East Gallatin Recreation Area.

A search of the Montana Natural Heritage Program (MNHP) element occurrence database (nhp.nris.state.mt.us/eoportal) indicates no known occurrences of federally listed threatened, endangered, or proposed threatened or endangered plant or animal species in the proposed project site.

Species of Concern Terms and Definitions

Montana Species of Concern. The term "**Species of Concern**" includes taxa that are at-risk or potentially at-risk due to rarity, restricted distribution, habitat loss, and/or other factors. The term also encompasses species that have a special designation by organizations or land management agencies in Montana, including: Bureau of Land Management Special Status and Watch species; U.S. Forest Service Sensitive and Watch species; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Threatened, Endangered and Candidate species.

▼ **Status Ranks (Global and State)**

The international network of Natural Heritage Programs employs a standardized ranking system to denote global (**G** -- range-wide) and state status (**S**) (NatureServe 2003). Species are assigned numeric ranks ranging from 1 (critically imperiled) to 5 (demonstrably secure), reflecting the relative degree to which they are "at-risk". Rank definitions are given below. A number of factors are considered in assigning ranks -- the number, size and distribution of known "occurrences" or populations, population trends (if known), habitat sensitivity, and threat. Factors in a species' life history that make it especially vulnerable are also considered (e.g., dependence on a specific pollinator).

Status Ranks

Code	Definition
G1 S1	At high risk because of extremely limited and/or rapidly declining numbers, range, and/or habitat, making it highly vulnerable to global extinction or extirpation in the state.
G2 S2	At risk because of very limited and/or declining numbers, range, and/or habitat, making it vulnerable to global extinction or extirpation in the state.
G3 S3	Potentially at risk because of limited and/or declining numbers, range, and/or habitat, even though it may be abundant in some areas.
G4 S4	Uncommon but not rare (although it may be rare in parts of its range), and usually widespread. Apparently not vulnerable in most of its range, but possibly cause for long-term concern.
G5 S5	Common, widespread, and abundant (although it may be rare in parts of its range). Not vulnerable in most of its range.

1. *Sphenopholis intermedia* (slender wedgrass)

Natural Heritage Ranks:

State: **S1**

Global: **G5**

Federal Agency Status:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service:

U.S. Forest Service:

U.S. Bureau of Land Management:

This species of concern is found in the greater Bozeman area, but it is unknown whether this species is found in East Gallatin Recreation Area specifically. It is fairly unlikely that they exist in the proposed project area, as the site is already disturbed and heavily traveled.

2. *Isocapnia crinita* (a stonefly)

Natural Heritage Ranks:

State: **S2**

Global: **G4**

Federal Agency Status:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service:

U.S. Forest Service:

U.S. Bureau of Land Management:

This invertebrate species occurs approximately five miles from East Gallatin Recreation Area and would not be affected by the proposed project.

3. *Cypripedium parviflorum* (small yellow lady's slipper).

Natural Heritage Ranks:

State: **S3**

Global: **G5**

Federal Agency Status:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service:

U.S. Forest Service: **Sensitive**

U.S. Bureau of Land Management: **Sensitive**

A small population of *Cypripedium parviflorum* can be found in a distinct location about 0.5 miles from the Recreation Area.

4. *Mimulus nanus* (dwarf purple monkeyflower).

Natural Heritage Ranks:

State: **S1**

Global: **G5**

Federal Agency Status:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service:

U.S. Forest Service: **Sensitive**

U.S. Bureau of Land Management: **Sensitive**

This species of concern is found in the greater Bozeman area, but it is unknown whether this species is found in East Gallatin Recreation Area specifically. It is fairly unlikely that they exist in the proposed project area, as the site is already disturbed and heavily traveled.

Interested parties may contact MFWP Region 3 offices for a detailed map of sensitive species Element Occurrences (EOs).

Information courtesy of Montana Natural Heritage Program.

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Tourism Report – Department of Commerce
- B. Clearance Letter--State Historic Preservation Office

ATTACHMENT A
TOURISM REPORT
MONTANA ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (MEPA)/HB495

The Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks has initiated the review process as mandated by HB495 and the Montana Environmental Policy Act in its consideration of the project described below. As part of the review process, input and comments are being solicited. Please complete the project name and project description portions and submit this form to:

Victor Bjornberg, Tourism Development Coordinator
Travel Montana-Department of Commerce
PO Box 200533
1424 9th Ave.
Helena, MT 59620-0533

Project Name: East Gallatin Recreation Area Sunrise Rotary Improvement Project

Project Location: East Gallatin Recreation Area, Bozeman, MT. Gallatin County, Township 1South, Range 6 East, Section 31.

Project Description: The City of Bozeman, in cooperation with the Sunrise Rotary Club of Bozeman and Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks proposes to implement several improvements at East Gallatin Recreation Area, including new restrooms with water and sewer service, paved roadways, expanded and paved parking area, expanded beach area, and an additional picnic pavilion.

1. Would this site development project have an impact on the tourism economy?
NO YES If YES, briefly describe:

2. Does this impending improvement alter the quality or quantity of recreation/tourism opportunities and settings?
NO YES If YES, briefly describe:

Signature _____
Date _____

Attachment B



MONTANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

225 North Roberts ♦ P.O. Box 201201 ♦ Helena, MT 59620-1201
♦ (406) 444-2694 ♦ FAX (406) 444-2696 ♦ www.montanahistoricalsociety.org ♦

RECEIVED

MAR 27 2007

DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION
DEPT. OF FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS

March 26, 2007

Bardell Mangum
FWP
1420 E. Sixth Ave
Helena MT 59620-0701

RE: EAST GALLATIN RECREATION AREA IMPROVEMENTS. SHPO Project #:
2007032603

Dear Mr. Mangum:

I have conducted a cultural resource file search for the above-cited project located in Section 31, T1S R6E. According to our records there have been no previously recorded sites within the designated search locales. The absence of cultural properties in the area does not mean that they do not exist but rather may reflect the absence of any previous cultural resource inventory in the area, as our records indicated none.

We feel that there is a low likelihood cultural properties will be impacted. We, therefore, feel that a recommendation for a cultural resource inventory is unwarranted at this time. However, should cultural materials be inadvertently discovered during this project we would ask that our office be contacted and the site investigated. Thank you for consulting with us.

If you have any further questions or comments you may contact me at (406) 444-7767 or by e-mail at dmurdo@mt.gov.

Sincerely,

Damon Murdo
Cultural Records Manager

File: FWP/PARKS/2007



STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE ♦ 1410 8th Ave ♦ P.O. Box 201202 ♦ Helena, MT 59620-1202
♦ (406) 444-7715 ♦ FAX (406) 444-6575